BOMBAY COURIER.

Published every Saturday and Tuesday Morning.

VOL. XLI. NUMBER 2065.] TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1831. [PRICE RS. 13 PER QUARTER.

JUST Published No. XIII of the ORIENTAL SPORTING MAGAZINE, *Consisting of*—1st Racecourse Distances.—2nd Letter from old Gooseberry.—3d Song Ride Sportsmen Ride.—4th Nosing Tom's last but one.—5th Extract from Recollections of Life in the Deccan.—6th Song—The midnight Boar.—7th Bottom better than Speed.---8th Falconry.---9th Neemuch Fly Fishing.---10th An account of a Favourite Greyhound.---11th Song---Meet me when day Light may Down. 12th. The Candeish Clubs. 13th Propositions for a Sporting Club.—14th Travelling in Guzerat.—15th Harlequin and Honesty.—16th Hog Hunting in Guzerat.—17th Kangaroo Hunting.---18th A Trip through Kattywar.---19th Pongoes at the Presidency.---20th Song for the Club of Harmonies.---21st A word to Witness. 22d Tiger Hunting—23d Song---The Hunting of the Boar.---24th Letter from Khandeish.---25th Lion Hunting in Khandeish.---26th Oh Rest thee my Hunter---27th. On Thorns.---28th John Dockery Redivivus.---29th A Slap at S. Y. S. 30th Sporting in Kattywar.---SELECTIONS. 31st Fight between Deaf Burke and Birmingham *alias* Welsh Davis.---32d Gallant Fight.---Atkinson and Parkes. 33d. The Drake Hunt Steeple Chase.—34th Kangaroo Hunting.---35th Hunting.---36th Floriken. [267]

FOR SALE.—At the Courier Office,

The Bombay Calendar for 1831,	5	0	0
Indian ditto,.....	2	2	0
Blank Powers of Attorney,.....	0	2	0
Ditto Interest Bonds,.....	0	2	0
Do. Policies,.....	1	0	0
Do. Bills of Lading, per set,.....	0	2	0
Do. Respondentia Bonds,.....	0	2	0
Do. Bills of Exchange, per set,....	0	2	0
Plans of the Island,.....	1	0	0
Traveller's Itinerary,.....	5	0	0
Insolvent Debtors' Act,.....	3	0	0

LETTER-PRESS PRINTING, neatly executed on moderate terms. [268]

FOR SALE. A few Copies of the English Sporting Magazine, from Nov. 1830 to April 1831. For particulars apply to SHREECRUSTNA JAGONNATHJEE, at the Courier office. [269]

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.
None.

SHIPPING REPORT.
ARRIVALS.

August 13, Brig Futtay Nassry, Syed Naiquedah, from Mocha, 31st July, 1831.
Passengers.—Mr. Stewart, Mr. Doding, and Pilgrims.

DEPARTURES.

13th, French Brig Hebe, L. Broille, Master to Bourbon.
Passengers.—3 Frenchmen.
14th, Ship George Cruttenden, Shaboo bin Tyab, Naiquedah, to Calcutta.
Passengers.—10 Natives.

LIST OF SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

FREE TRADERS.—Sarah, Sir Francis Burton, Elizabeth and Jane, Drougan and Gipsey.
COUNTRY SHIPS.—Byramgore, Cadery, Maackborn, Dadaloy, Eliza, Discovery, and Cavendish Bentinck.
ARAB.—Fazarabany, Fazel Currim, Futtay Raymon, Futtay Nassry.
HON. COMPANY'S *Receiving Ship*—Hastings.
Do. Do. *Steamer*—Hugh Lindsay.
Do. Do. *Schooner*—Royal Tiger.
Do. Do. *Surveying Vessel*—Benares.
Do. Do. *Sloops of War*—Clive, Amherst, and Elphinstone,
PORTUGUESE—Brig Aurelia.
BRAZILIAN—Ampaeze.
AMERICAN.—Nereus.

THE COURIER.

BOMBAY, AUGUST 16, 1831.

By the arrival of the Red Rover at Madras, Sidney Papers have been received up to the 5th of June. It appears by them, that Steam navigation had just been introduced into that flourishing colony with every prospect of success. A small steam boat called the *Surprise* started in the early part of June from Sidney for Parametta, in the presence of a numerous concourse of spectators who lined both sides of the shore.

Among other items of news, we see it mentioned, that the inhabitants of Pitcairns island, so well known to every body from their romantic history, and who have lately excited more interest than ever, from the delightful manner in which they are mentioned in Capt. Beechey's account of his late visit to their little Paradise; have been removed by H. M. Ship Comet, to the island of Otaheite. [illegible] ould have been the motives which led to the step, we are at a loss to conceive, but understand that thewhole colony which amounted to 86 persons, were by no means pleased with the change in consequence of the dissolute habits of the people amongst whom they have been placed.

Mr. Holman the blind traveller it appears had been at Sidney, and had left it to explore the interior.

We noticed a week or two ago, Capt. Beechey's narrative, as one of the few books [illegible]ly interesting nature which have appeared during the last twelve months, a period in which writers of every description, from the novelist to the philosopher, appear to have devoted their attention almost exclusively to productions of a Political nature. We are glad, however, to observe some exceptions to this rule, and among them, those of a writer who has always succeeded in fascinating his readers by the delightful accounts he has published of his voyages, and travels in the most opposite quarters of the Globe. From the appearance of his first publication Captain Hall's reputation was established, for being one of the shrewdest and most accomplished travellers of his age: and his power of describing with vividness and energy both manners and scenery, have made his works the most popular travels of the present times.

We observe that his late work entitled "*Fragments of voyages and travels, including Anecdotes of a Naval life, chiefly for the use of young persons,*" is noticed in the last number of the Quarterly Review as likely to sustain if not increase his reputation, and from the extract we have made in to-day's paper, we shall leave our readers to form their own conclusions as to the truth of the remark. The work is in three volumes duodecimo, and records only the principal events, comprising chases, captures, escapes &c, &c, during a small portion of the authors career; the remainder of which he says is ready for publication, should the present volumes meet with success.

CALCUTTA.

The report that was circulated here some time ago, of the death of the King of Ava, appears to be without foundation; at least His Majesty, we know, from the most [illegible]thentic source, was alive on the 9th of June. [illegible]at date he continued unwell, and would [illegible]e seen, but it was understood that his disorder was more mental than bodily: fortunately for those around him, his malady was not of a violent, or outrageous character, but much resembling idiocy. In the meanwhile, public business was in a state of abeyance, as Ministers dared not act without his authority.

Lieutenant Burnes of the Bombay Army, who as our readers are aware, was proceeding up the Sutledge in charge of a present of Dray Horses from his Britannic Majesty to the King of the Seikhs, was, at the date of our latest accounts, expected at Lahore in a few days. Runjeet had expressed great anxiety to see these beasts of which he has received flattering descriptions. He cannot believe they are Horses, but imagines them to be something between the Horse and the Elephant, save and except that the *proboscis* is wanting.

[illegible]neral of the Army, intends to resign his situation and go home in January or February next. We need hardly say that the departure of this able Officer—this zealous friend of the Army—will be regarded by the whole Service as a serious loss; unless indeed he should be able to exert his talents and his influence in the good cause at home—*Ben. Hur. July* 26.

IRELAND.

We noticed in the Postscipt last week the slaughter (for the the accounts are so various, that we hesitate to call it by any other name) of five miserable policemen, near Doolin, a wild and remote quarter in the county of Clare, lying in the direction of Ennistimon. There are, as usual, half a dozen versions of the story. According to one, the policemen had fallen in with some men administering unlawful oaths, of whom they shot one and took one prisoner: and, being attacked while carrying him off, they first shot their prisoner while attempting to escape, then fired on the people until all their ammunition was expended, and finally, were themselves put to death with every accompaniment of barbarity. Another account says, the peasantry were employed in destroying, by cutting up, a pasture-field, when they were fired on by the policemen; the third, and most favourable to the people, says, they were peaceably and legally occupied in digging, with the the consent of the owner, a field belonging to a Mr. Edward Moran, when the police attack was made. Of the death of the officers there are unfortunately no two accounts. The fight took place on Easter Monday; and [illegible] bodies, frightfully disfigured, were conveyed [illegible] Ennis the following day; four of the men were Catholics. The state of Clare, where the misery and suffering of the people appear to have reached the *ne plus ultra* of human endurance, was alluded to in the House of Commons this week in Mr. O'Brien's motion. The visit of the Marquis of Anglesey to the county, it was alleged, would tend to perpetuate the disturbances, by holding out prospects of redress which were not to be realised; and it was stated that the peasantry, who had previously engaged to give up their guns to Mr. Steele and the Rev. Mr. Lynch, had, after the Marquis's arrival, withdrawn their pledges. A better spirit seems, however, to have come over them. At a meeting which took place on Saturday, Mr. Steele, in moving the appointment of a committee to consider the best means of alleviating the distress of the district, stated, that he and his worthy coadjutor had been incessantly occupied in getting their arms from the deluded "Terry Atlas;" and that he had no doubt, when the objects of the meeting were carried into effect; that tranquillity and order would be restored to the country. It is not unworthy of notice, that the principal speaker st the meeting in question was Andrew Slackpoole, Esq. of Ennis; and that among the measures which in addition to an alteration in the Vestry Act, the Tithe System the Grand Jury Laws, were described by him as most likely to tranquilize Ireland, he mentioned the throwing open of the corporation of Ennis of which he is a member, under the Reform Bill. It was also worthy of remark, that of nineteen gentlemen of whom the Committee consists, ten are justices of the peace. The Vestry Act seems to excite a stronger feeling of indignation among the people than any other. At Carrick on-Suir, so forcibly has this been felt by the Protestants, that they have agreed in future to repair the Church by voluntary subscription. The Vestry of Quin, on the same day, agreed to subscribe for the repairs of the Catholic chapels in the parish; so that the repairs of all religious edifices should, in future, be mutually provided for.

Lord ANGLESEY has everywhere met with the most gratifying marks of affection and respect. He was, when the last accounts were received, at Galway. He is extremely averse from strong measures, as they are called, unless a case of absolute necessity is made out; and from the returning tranquillity in Clare, where it has been most disturbed, we sincerely hope no such case will be made out.

BOROUGHMONGERY ILLUSTRATED.

If the foulness of the Boroughmongering system were not too notorious for argument, every hour would produce fresh evidence of its character; and the difficulty is, not to find materials for impeachment, but to select the more egregious instances from a mass, which affords such a gross abundance of equal testimony. But the recent exposure of the *corrupt proceedings* (we use the expression of Lord Gooderich in speaking of them) relative to the return of Sir Edward Sugden, Solicitor-General in expectancy; and the whole [illegible] management of the united [illegible] mouth and Melcombe Regis—[illegible] the same time example of the baseness [illegible] prerogatives of the Crown, and the respectability [illegible] of the the peerage are directly interested [illegible] in the immediate passing of the Reform bill.

It is well known that the property in these boroughs—that is to say, the usurped right of sending four members into the House of Commons—belonged to Puteney Earl of Bath, from whom they ultimately descended so Sir F. G. Johnstone, *a minor*. Now, note the first consequence. The guardians of the infant exercise the patronage---for whose benefit?---evidently for their own; they return themselves and their friends to Parliament; they can make their own bargains with the minister; they can serve their own ends in all the departments, so notoriously open to the solicitation of honourable gentlemen; they gratify their own vanity; and they may, if so minded, forward the objects of their ulterior ambition. Some of these things they may, some of them they must do; the seats must be filled, and the elections must be influenced; the interest of the infant must be kept up; it would be a political *divastavit* to liberate the franchise; they must nominate themselves or their friends—true—but they may sell the seats, and carry the money to the account of their ward's estate: they may—and the *item* would look well in the Guardianship accounts, as passed before one of the Masters of the High Court of Chancery.

By cash of Sir Gripewell Truckleborough, for three seats in

Parliament..... £15,000
By ditto of Mr. Crawling, subject to an abatement if he vacates
his seat on obtaining an appointment.. 5,250

Would not this be a most honourable account? But suppose the contrary; suppose that the guardians of a minor patron choose to put the money into their own pockets, where is the remedy? Will an action lie? Will a Court of Equity decree an account? Will the Judges assist in the division of the spoil? It is a first maxim, that a trustee shall make not profit of his trust. It is a first principle, that he shall be subject to account; but in this case of Boroughmongery, if he does not sell, he must have the profit—the actual patronage; and if he does sell, the Courts could or would as little deal with the produce of the sale, as with the partition of a highwayman's booty. "It is a Hounslow Heath case," said a venerable Judge, "and I will have nothing further to say to it." But there is yet another rule concerning trusts: a trustee shall not avail himself of any knowledge acquired in that character to his own advantage. This brings us to the second stage of the Weymouth case. Colonel John Gordon, of Cluny, the maternal uncle of the infant, is one of the guardians; he is ambitous of the peerage, and wisely determines that to have three or four members in the Commons, is the surest mode of *thrusting* himself into the Lords. That he should have one of the seats for Weymouth, was a matter of course; his colleague, Mr. Masterman Ure, had another; and the remaining two might be in their joint nomination But to have this patronage *in auter droit*, and that only till the infant should come of age, was not enough; Colonel Gordon became the purchaser of property within the boroughs:—

"Colonel Gordon is to buy of Messrs. Henning and Horseford their freeholds, and the conveyance is to be taken in the joint names of Colonel G. and Mr. S., as purchasers; but Mr. S. is to hold, as a trustee, only for Colonel G. Mr. S. is to be returned free of expense, so long as he requires a seat; and the other seats are to be disposed of as Colonel Gordon thinks proper.—E.B.S."

Edward Burtenshaw Sugden,—then on the very eve of becoming Solicitor General—*then*, beyond a doubt, contemplating yet higher honours—yet higher public trust,—Sir Edward Sugden himself drew up this memorandum, as well as that which follows:—

"Lincoln's Inn, 6th December, 1828.

"I hereby declare, that the purchase made in Weymouth, of Messrs. Henning and Horseford, was, although concluded in the joint names of Colonel Gordon and myself, made for him solely; and the 21,000l. was his money, and I am a trustee for him; but I am to have the benefit of my seat, according to the arrangement between Mr. Fraser,* on the part of Colonel Gordon, and myself.—Edward B. Sugden. The 10,500l. paid into my account, at Hoare's, is the money of Colonel G.—E. B. S. 2,000l. to pay old bills, to be paid by Mr. S., on a general election, if he is returned, and another person is [illegible] he to pay the 2,000l [illegible] S. is returned before [illegible]

Now of what [illegible] stipulation [illegible] purchase [illegible] ward and nephew? Oh! but, it is answered, he will sell them to him some day. Yes; and in the mean while,

"Lieut. Colonel Gordon offers to return Mr. Sugden free of expense, for Weymouth, so long as he may require a seat, Mr. Sugden following Colonel Gordon to sell two of the remaining seats. He also, with Lords Grantham and Gooderich,† will use his best endeavours to obtain a Peerage for Lieut. Colonel Gordon. Mr. Weyland‡ to be excluded from the borough."

This was well calculated; a man of talent, a man of influence in the Court of Chancery, a man of influence in the Court of Chancery, a man in expectancy, a man "no a Lord Chancellor in expectancy, a man "no

* The discovery of this singular case has taken place in consequence of a dispute between this gentlemen and Colonel Gordon. Legal proceedings have been taken; and it is from Mr. Fraser's charge that we copy these and other extracts. The accusation may be well or ill founded; with that we do not interfere,—it is enough for us that under the existing system, such things not only may be, but are highly probable.

† Both these noble lords have indignantly denied their participation in the alleged offence. Colonel Gordon also has sent a letter to the papers, but he does not touch the principal political charge. Mr. Fraser insists upon his statement, and adds a circumstance of considerable aggravation.

‡ This gentleman had married Lady Johnstone, the mother of the minor.

likely to want the seat for a long period," would best forward the views of a patron longing for a barony—and then three or four seats will at any time add the strawberry leaves to the pearls of the Coronet.

Yet amid these day-dreams, there must have been some misgivings. The purchases could not be effected so secretly but that they got wind. Mr. Henning, one of the venders, write[illegible] Sugden :—

"You [illegible]omewhat surprised to hear that letters have be[illegible] received from Scotland, stating that C[illegible]onel Gordon is the sole purchaser of the freehold. It has excited a considerable *feeling here* (at Weymouth.)" As there appeared to be some danger of an *ultimate* collision between the interests in the boroughs (that is, between the interests of Colonel Gordon and his nephew, Sir Frederick Johnstone), Mr. Sugden recommended the step of gaining over Mr. Masterton Ure, the other trustee," and attaching him to us ;" a proposal was accordingly made to Mr. U., which he declined to accord to. It appears from a letter of Colonel Gordon to his agent, dated the 17th of December, 1828, that his sister, Lady Johnstone, had written to the steward of the trustees at Weymouth, stating, that " his (Colonel Gordon's) conduct had plainly proved that he had no wish but to gratify his own ambitious views," a statement which he regards as a calumny, and desires to know if it is not actionable. Finally Alderman Bower, of Weymouth, " made vehement complaints in writing at this period, that the said John Gordon had unfairly and illegally supplanted his nephew (Sir F. G. Johnstone) in the said boroughs." These complaints were communicated to Mr. Sugden by Mr. Fraser, to whom he wrote the following letter :—" Lincoln's Inn, 23rd January, 1829.—My dear Sir, It seems hardly possible to avoid answering Bower's letter; but it cannot be too general. On the other side I have sketched what suggests itself to me, I do not think it advisable to apply to Mr. Gilbert Stewart, for reasons which it would be useless to detail in a letter. I advise you not to show any eagerness to purchase either Buxton's or Welsford's. I am, &c Edwd B. Sugden." The sketch of the letter to Alderman Bower annexed is in these terms :— "That his long letter scarcely admits of a reply ; but Colonel Gordon has no doubt that the step taken by him will secure, instead of weakening the interest of the family. Mr. Sugden is not likely to want the seat for a long period; and *he (Col. G.) will always be ready to purchase his interest when he no longer requires it ;* and he (Col. G.) has no reason to suppose that the interest of his nephew and himself will lead to any disunion between them."

We do not notice this matter with a view to any personal attack on Sir Edward Sugden — he is one of the opponents of Reform ; but were he even a more formidable enemy than he ever has been, or is ever again likely to be, we should not quit the principle to engage with the man. He will say—*Multi et boni idem fecerunt ;* we freely give him all the benefit of examples ; he cannot deny to us the inference from his apology. What must the system be, under which good men will do such deeds ? Away, then, with these pit falls of corruption, these traps for our morality, these seducers of *noble* and *right honourable* principle! away with them! away with them ! let no future guardian incur the imputation of a breach of trust by dabbling with, or nibbling at, the patronage of his ward—let no future Chancellor, *in petto,* be suspected of bartering his future advice of the Crown, as the price of his first step towards the Cabinet—let the King be *free* to choose his Peers—let the Peerage be delivered from the intrusion of Jobbers. Will the character of any one [illegible]nch of the legislature suffer by the change? [illegible]own will gain—the Lords will gain—[illegible]s will gain—each their legitimate [illegible] legitimate freedom, each [illegible]ter. What will be lost? [illegible]wful to acquire—[illegible]f selling men's [illegible] opinions ! which is to e[illegible]m legis[illegible]ly ; it [illegible]

POLITICAL EXTINCTION OF SIR ROBERT WILSON.

SOME inattentive people have expressed a needless surprise at the last exhibition of Sir Robert Wilson on the stage of the House of Commons. For our parts, we think the farewell speech was in perfect keeping with the melodrame of which it is destined to form the epilogue. Sir Robert Wilson has been at all times a prodigiously overrated man. Of his merits as a soldier or an officer, we do not pretend to speak ; they do not lie in our way. As an author and an orator, he is below criticism. His style is bad, his arguments trifling, his facts neither sifted nor certain. He gained the praise of the Tories by abusing most outrageously the character of Napoleon, at a period when it had many good points to recommend it ; and he sought to gain the approbation of the Liberals by equally outrageous laudation of it, when most of these good points had been obliterated by successful tyranny. Of the dashing interposition in the case of Lavalette, he contrived to carry off the honour, by the scoundrel declamation of his defence ; and the impression which that idle accident created was rendered permanent by the exhibition at the Queen's funeral, or rather by the blundering persecution of Lord Castlereagh—of whom it might be said, in the words of Johnson slightly changed that he was always meddling, and he spoiled every thing he handled. The people of Southwark imagined that in Sir Robert Wilson they had got a man of high resolve and consistent patriotism ; when they have only got a vain, changeable, silly man, alike destitute of profound views and of steady principles. We need not advert to the Spanish-expedition or the sorry fame which Sir Rorert gained from his earnest endeavours to render ridiculous what was already contemptible We pass on to his later exploits. In the restoration of his honours we sincerely sympathized, because we thought the deprivation of them an act of gross injustice. But that restoration was fatal to the Knight. The exclusion under which he suffered, while it gave him the semblance of a sufferer for conscience's sake, by identifying private pride with public principle, impressed consistency on his general conduct. Restored to his rank, he seems to have thought he might at length cast off the inconvenient patriotism which he had so long been constrained to wear. Who has forgotten his vote on Sir HENRY PARNELL'S motion? None, we believe ; but there are many that have not, perhaps, very closely attended to numerous rumours of appointments to Ceylon, to the Cape of Good Hope, and other places, with which, about that period, the daily journals teemed. Who was it that scattered these hints of honour and place? Perhaps, if their history could be carefully traced, very excellent reasons might be discovered for the mistimed zeal with which Sir ROBERT embarked in the cause of the Duke of WELLINGTON on the 15th November. Perhaps also, in the neglect of his fancied pretensions by the present Ministers, might be found a very sufficient key to his conduct on the 19th of April.

One word on the plea of misrepresentation by the reporters of the press. The *Mirror of Parliament* to which Sir Robert refers as a standard, has no facilities of hearing or reporting that are not common to the daily journals. Its conductors may collate other reports with their own, but further they neither have nor pretend to have any advantage over the *Times* or the *Chronicle*. If the version of the *Mirror* differs from both of these journals, the presumption is that the *Mirror* is wrong ; if the difference be the result of Sir Robert's corrections, as he calls them, the only sound inference is, that it has been purposely made wrong. It is very possible that the *Mirror* report, as amended by Sir Robert, may contain what he next day wished he had said ; but the point to which his constituents have to look, is what he did say. On that " there can be no mistake—there shall be no mistake." —*Spectator, April* 24.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SPECTATOR.

SIR—As the tenor of my former letter to you was directly the reverse of asserting that the Princess Victoria was in ill health, I cannot but notice the statement by the Court Newsman " that the reports of her illness and the weakness of her legs were without foundation." We all know how *accurately* the public are informed, by authority, of the state of health of Royal personages, as in the case of the late King and Duke of York ; but, notwithstanding the accuracy of the Court Newsman, I must remark, that, through the whole winter, the Heiress Presumptive has had a similar affection in her knees and ancles to that from which the Landgravine of Hesse Homburg and the Princess Sophia have long suffered ; and that the tendency of such attacks has been so enfeebling, that an opinion has been expressed, that in case the young Princess should grow stout and heavy, like the rest of her family the idea of her walking must be given up. I perceive, with great pleasure, that her Royal Highness has been walking in the Park this week ; and I have myself seen her alight from her carriage with a tolerably firm step ; but, from her wearing her slippers down at the heel, I should guess she is still rather tender-footed These observations I make merely in consequence of the flat contradiction which has been given [illegible]very facts ; for no one can wish more sincerely stance relating to that the Princess Victoria's succesced with anxiety [illegible] be defeated by [illegible] to her Royal Highness is notiyour obedient humble [illegible]nd attention. I am, Sir, [illegible]rvant, Medicus.

THE CAMPAIGN OF THE [illegible]TOCRAT AGAINST THE [illegible]RUSSIAN AUDENCE OF THE POLES. [illegible]INDEPEN-

Those whose political opinions are bas[illegible] on the theory of the utter and irretrievable d[illegible]ed on pravity of their fellow men ; those who have no public sympathies which are not bound up in the existence and progress of absolutism, or some narrow oligarchy, have been steady in their efforts to depreciate the merit of the second great instance of the advance of public virtue, and of the spirit of liberty, which the last twelve months have brought forth. These persons first asserted that the revolution in Poland was exclusively the revolution of its nobility and that the bulk of the people were contented to remain under Russian despotism. Next we were told, that any exertions in behalf of the Poles would be thrown away, as their cause was hopeless ; that they were incapable of united and sustained efforts, and equally unfitted for independence.

Every post brings us some triumphant answer to these sentiments and misrepresentations. Hitherto we have been compelled to recollect our accounts of the progress of the campaign chiefly from the journals under the control of the robber-powers. We are this week enabled to give a narrative of the campaign from a gentleman who witnessed it, and who has furnished us, from memory, with such a sketch of the field of battle, as will enable our readers to perceive and appreciate the heroism of the people who with the horrors of war before them, deliberately stake their existence on the result of their efforts to obtain independence.

The Poles never expected that the Russians would have commenced the compaign at such a season of the year. Having heard that the Russian columns had entered the country, during the first days of February, the Poles determined not to oppose their entry. They even sacrificed several depôts of provisons which they had not removed into the rear. The Polish army, then commanded by the Prince Radzivil, formed a crescent, of which the centre rested on Liviec, with the right wing at Siedlec, and the extreme left between Pultusk and Rogan. The Russians entered in five colums ; on by Tykocin—the second by Drogiczin—the third by Brzesc Litewsk—the fourth by Uscilug the last was that which advanced the most rapi[illegible] with the intention of crossing the Vistula at [illegible], and from thence getting to the other side of Warsaw. This corps was commanded by General Kreutz. It was opposed by the Polish General Dwernicki, who with a force of 4000 cavalry, and 6000 infantry, with 6 pieces of cannon, paralized it by bold and able manœuvres. He took 25 pieces of cannon and many prisoners, and gained several victories ; the principal of which was that of Stoczek. On the other side, General Skrzynecki, having opposed to him thrice the number of his own army, alone kept the Russians in check before Dobré. There it was that he gave proofs of the superior genius and bravery, which he has subsequently manifested on the yet more glorious day of the 31st of March. On the 19th and 20th of Feb. a part of the Polish army, commanded by General Chlopicki, opposed a sortie of Russians from the forest of Milosna, six miles from Praga ; and, notwithstanding the great superiority of their numbers the Russians found it impossible to advance a step. On the 24th of the same month, Prince Schacchowski, at the head of a body of Russians, having arrived to join General Diebitsch, had a rencontre on that day with the Polish General Kruckowiecki, without making any impression upon him. But on the next day, the 25th of the month, General Kruckowiecki gave the Prince a complete defeat ; and this defeat would have occasioned the greatest consequences, had it not been followed by an attack made by Marshal Diebitsch on the whole Polish line. This attack interrupted the successes of General Kruckowiecki. The battle of the 25th was the most sanguinary that has been fought. (The narrative of this battle is comprehended in the description of the field before Warsaw.)

After this battle the thaw commenced. It was then decided that the Polish army should re-enter Praga and Warsaw ; guarding only the *tête du pont* of Praga.

General Skrzynecki's plan was to concentrate his forces before Warsaw, and to maintain their position up to the moment of the thaw, when they could return to the other side of the Vistula, leaving that river between them and the Russians : leaving the latter in a critical position in consequence of the state of the roads which renders communication at that season almost impracticable.

The Russians endeavoured to establish several batteries, from which they could bombard the city ; but they were prevented, and the works which they had established, were destroyed by the Polish batteries at their *tête du pont.*

During this time, when the army was in Warsaw, Prince Radzivil—who had only accepted the chief command because at that moment (although he protested that he did not feel himself capable of sustaining adequately so immense a responsibility) he was the only one who had the unanimous suffrages of the nation—now declared that he would give up the command to him, who was deemed to have distinguished himself the most during the campaign. The command was offered unanimously, by Radzivil, the army, and the nation, to General Skrzynecki. Without losing a moment, the new commander-in-chief sent several corps of partizans across the Vistula, with orders to [illegible] the [illegible] and intervals with renewed activity. At the end of eight days the ranks of the army were again filled, and it was as strong and as well appointed as before. The manufacture of arms went on night and day ; all the houses of Warsaw were fortified, and the streets were barricadoed. Several mines were prepared, with the intention of burying all in one common ruin, rather than surrender to the invading hordes, General gover[illegible]ruckoweicki was named the new military had forse[illegible]nor. On the other side, what the Poles

The Russ[illegible]n occurred.

farther, and equa[illegible]ns finding it imposible to advance ed in masses on th[illegible]ly impossible to remain group- to disperse and to ret[illegible] same spot, were forced hood of Warsaw.

General Dwernicki then reci[illegible]e from the neighbour- with a corps of partisans ; chace[illegible]ssed the Vistula General Kreutz, drove him from Pula[illegible] before him as Lublin (seven German miles), and joine[illegible]y as far fortress of Zamosc, and there cut off the com[illegible] the munication of the Russians with Volhynia, and seriously annoyed them in the rear.

On the 25th of March, General Uminsli made an attack on Pultusk with a corps of 8,000 strong ; in fine, on the night of the 30th of March, the general-in-chief himself, Skrzynecki left Warsaw with 25,000 men and fell with impetuosity on the Russian advanced guards commanded by General Geismar, and put to flight the whole of his corps.

The following is one of the best accounts that has appeared of this battle :—

" The combats of the 31st of March merit the admiration of Europe. The Polish generalissimo has just executed a master-stroke by throwing himself suddenly into the midst of Russian cantonments, to crush separately the bodsie of the opposing armies. This movement bold without being rash, is that of a man of head and execution. Skrzynecki (pronounced Skrejinetski) fell on Diebitsch at an advantage, cut his line, and put to the sword many of the troops of the Generals Geismar and Rosen, whilst the Russian general-in-chief was unable to convey any assistance to them or even to send them instructions. The news of the rout must have arrived at the same time as that of the attack at Siennica, the head quarters of Diebitsch.

" Skrynecki passed the Vistula, on the bridge of boats, from Warsaw or Praga on the nights of the 30th and 31st. Before the break of day he had carried the entrenchments which command the cantonment of General Geismar. At noon the Poles drove back, for the second time, the same division of the army which had rallied at Milosna, three leagues distant, in that forest which was disputed in the fights of the 19th February. At five o'clock the Poles entered the second line of the Russian encampments, formed by the corps of General Rosen and the remains of that of Geismar, occupying at Dembewielki, seven leagues from Warsaw, another entrenched position. The fight lasted until ten o'clock in the evening because the Polish general was obliged to wait for the coming up of his columns to obtain a decisive result, and the Russians thought they had only to resist a surprise a *coup de main*, after which the Poles relied on re-taking the road to Warsaw.

" But the operation of Skrynecki was more serious. He aimed at cutting the Russian army into pieces, and he succeeded. The two bodies of Geismar and Rosen retreated, at ten o'clock in the evening, on Minsk, in complete rout. The disorder of this retreat in the night must have been excessively disastrous. Several regiments lost all order, as always happens on a field of battle, and much *materiel* was left on the roads. Doubtless, the Poles, on the following day, on reaching Minsk, collected on the road much precious spoil—cannons, arms, ammunition chests, and several prisoners. On the 31st they had already taken 3000 prisoners and six pieces of cannon. The total number of prisoners taken in this affair was 7000."

Information has been received by a mercantil house in Danzic, from Warsaw, that the 95th regiment of Russian troops, with some other soldiers, had deserted and joined the Poles. They had marched from Grotia, and, when challenged, grounded their arms, and were in the course of exercise when the letter was despatched, to join the Polish army. The number of Russian troops who had thus deserted, it is stated amounted to 4,000. There are no letters from St. Petersburgh this morning, the communication having been cut off. On the road from Memel to Riga a great number of persons had risen against the Russian troops : It was reported that the army under General Diebitsch was suffering severely from want of provisions.

A letter received by Estafette yesterday, from Paris, has the following :—" Paris, Wednesday Evening :—The news of Diebitsch and his army having been taken is confirmed."

We know not what authority the above statements is entitled to. We need hardly say we wish it true !—*Morning Chronicle.*

THE PLAGUE OF LONDON.

" The disease generally manifested itself by the usual febrile symptons of shivering, nausea, headache, and delirium. In some these affections were so mild as to be mistaken for a slight and transient indisposition. The victim saw not, or would not see, the insiduous approach of his foe ; he applied to his usual avocations, till a sudden faintness came on, the maculæ, the fatal 'tokens' appeared on his breast, and within an hour life was extinct. But, in most cases, the pain and the delirium left no room for doubt. On the third or fourth day, buboes or carbuncles arose ; if these could be made to suppurate, recovery might [illegible] nature, and the [illegible] the efforts of was inevitable. The sufferings of the patient often threw them into paroxysms of frenzy. They burst the bands by which they were confined in their beds ; they precipitated themselves from the windows ; they ran naked into the streets, and plunged into the river.

" Men of the strongest minds were lost in amazement, when they contemplated this scene of woe and desolation ; the weak and the credulous became the dupes of their own fears and imaginations. Tales the most improbable, and predictions the most terrific, were circulated ; numbers assembled at different cemetries to behold the ghosts of the dead walk round the pits in which their bodies had been deposited ; and crowds believed that they saw in the heavens a sword of flame, stretching from Westminster to the Tower. To add to their terrors, came the fanatics, who felt themselves inspired to act the part of prophets. One of these, in a state of nudity, walked through the city, bearing on his head a pan of burning coals, and denouncing the judgment of God on its sinful inhabitants. [illegible] of Jonah, 'Yet forty days, [illegible] ; another assuming the character ed ;' and a third mi[illegible]d aloud, as he passed, day, sometimes by ni[illegible]ondon shall be destroy- urri ed step, and exclaiming[illegible] met, some[illegible]

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sepulchral voice, 'Oh the great and dreadful God !"

"During the month of July and August, the weather was sultry, the heat more and more oppressive. The eastern parishes, which at first had been spared, became the chief seat of the pestilence, and the more substantial citizens, whom it had hitherto respected, suffered in common with their less opulent neighbours. In many places the regulations of the magistrates could no longer be enforced. The nights did not suffice for the burial of the dead, who were now borne away in coffins to their graves at all hours of the day ; and it was inhuman to shut up the dwellings of the infected poor, whose families must have perished through want, had they not been permitted to go and seek relief. London presented a wide and heart-rending scene of misery and desolation. Rows of houses stood tenantless, and open to the winds ; others, in almost equal numbers, exhibited the red cross flaming on the doors. The chief thoroughfares, so lately trodden by the feet of thousands, were overgrown with grass. The few individuals who ventured abroad, walked in the middle ; and, when they met, declined on opposite sides, to avoid the contact of each other. But, if the solitude and stillness of the streets impressed the mind with awe, there was something yet more appalling in the sounds which occasionally burst on the ear. At one moment were heard the ravings of delirium, or the wail of woe, from the infected dwelling ; at another, the merry song, or the loud and careless laugh, issuing from the wassailers at the tavern, or the inmates of the brothel. Men became so familiarized with the form, that they steeled their feelings against the terrors of death. They waited each for his turn with the resignation of the Christian, or the indifference of the stoic. Some devoted themselves to exercises of piety ; others sought relief in the riots of dissipation, and the recklessness of despair.

'September came ; the heat of the atmosphere began to abate ; but contrary to expectation, the mortality increased. Formerly, a hope of recovery, might be indulged ; now infection was the certain harbinger of death, which followed, generally, in the course of three days, often within the space of twenty-four hours. The privy council ordered an experiment to be tried, which was grounded on the practice of former times. To dissipate the pestilential miasm, fires of sea-coal, in the proportion of one fire to every twelve houses, were kindled in every street, court, and alley of London and Westminster. They were kept burning three days and nights, and were at last extinguished by a heavy and continuous fall of rain. The next bil exhibited a considerable reduction in the amount of deaths ; and the survivors congratulated each other on the cheering prospect. But the cup was soon dashed from their lips ; and in the following week, more than ten thousand victims, a number hitherto unknown, sunk under the augmented violence of the disease. Yet even now, when hope had yielded to despair, their deliverance was at hand. The high winds which usually accompany the autumnal equinox, cooled and purified the air ; the fever, though equally contagious, assumed a less malignant form, and its ravages were necessarily more confined, from the diminution of the population on which it had hitherto fed. The weekly burials successively decreased from thousands to hundreds ; and in the begining of December, seventy-three parishes were pronounced clear of the disease. The intelligence was hailed with joy by the emigrants, who returned in crowds to take possession of their homes, and resume their usual occupations : in February, the court was once more fixed at Whitehall, and the nobility and gentry followed the footsteps of the Sovereign. Though more than one hundred thousand individuals are said to have perished, yet in a short time the chasm in the population was no longer discernable. The plague continued indeed to linger in particular spots, but its terrors were forgotten, despised ; and the streets, so recently abandoned by the inhabitants, were again thronged with multitudes in the eager pursuit of profit, or pleasure, or crime."—*Liv. Times, April*, 16.

LIFE OE THOMAS MUIR, ESQ. ADVOCATE, AND REFORMER.

The life of this early, but unfortunate reform- [illegible] the *Athenæum*, in noticing the work, gives the following epitome of his romantic and eventful story.

Thomas Muir was born at Glasgow in 1765, and as his parents were wealthy as well as respectable, he obtained an education which enabled him to appear with distinction as an advocate at the Scotish bar. He had behaved with great ardour and decision, when the students of Glasgow College deprived Edmund Burke of the Lord Rectorship, and bestowed it upon a resolute whig, Graham of Gartmere : and he carried the same spirit and activity of mind into that celebrated association, called "The Friends of the People," which sprung up in Britain in the year 1792, and filled the government with consternation. Now, be it known that this formidable society professed nothing save what was dutiful, nay respectful, to this country; each member had to sign a declaration of love for the government of Britain, as established by the King, Lords, and Commons, and the moral character of each citizen was insisted on. "The Friends of the People" began to grow popular—they sent delegates to what they called "The Convention," held at Edinburgh, an assembly [illegible] which Muir frequently presided. The fame of this association reached Ireland, and Archibald Hamilton Rowan addressed them in a strain of great elevation and eloquence.

It was less to the pleasure of the Friends of the People, that the fame of their proceedings had reached the ear of the cold, quiet, and determined Pitt, who felt alarm when men so eloquent and active as Muir, and of such station as Lord Daer, figured in the Convention ; he had no wish to put parliamentary constructions on their proceedings ; he called their speeches seditious ; accused their leaders of disaffection to the government, and charged them with the design of forming a democracy on the ruins of the constitution. Muir, who was then in France, returned to meet the charge, and was instantly brought to trial. Those were evil days for honest men who loved and talked of freedom. Burns was told by the Board of Excise that his business was to act, not to think ; and that, whatever might be the conduct of government, his duty was silence and obedience. On the 30th of August 1793, Muir was brought to the bar of the Court of Justiciary, and charged with sedition ; he was accused of having talked of liberty and reform, and desired a musician to play "Ca Ira!" The trial lasted eighteen hours—he defended himself with eloquence and ability, but a verdict of "proven" was returned, and he was sentenced to fourteen years transportation. The fate of this able and enthusiastic man excited much sympathy all over the island—no one could love his country more ardently—no one who knew him imagined for a moment that he wished the subversion of the constitution—and all felt as we feel now, that at the worst he was an honest visionary, who thought better of human nature than it deserved. Fox in the Commons, and Lauderdale in the Lords, endeavoured to excite commiseration for him in vain—he was put on board the *Surprise* transport ; his father and mother, weighed down with sorrow for their son, visited him frequently, and the latter presented him with a small pocket bible---a book which was his solace in affliction afterwards, and the means of saving his life.

The romance of Thomas Muir now begins. He was well received in Sydney, and estimated as a sensible man of a retired turn, but who excelled in powers of conversation when it was his pleasure to speak. He purchased land, and seemed contented with his lot. It was perhaps his misfortune that his talents and his principles had excited much sympathy in America ; some generous citizens of the States despatched a vessel to Sydney to bring him from the land of convicts to that of freemen : and on the 11th of February 1796, he made his escape from bondage to encounter many other sorrows.

After being at sea four months the vessel was wrecked on the Western coast of America, and all on board perished, save two sailors and Muir. He fell into the hands of a tribe of Indians, who behaved with unexpected kindness ; and, charmed by his manners and address, admitted him to fellowship, on the easy, condition of painting and dressing himself like a chief of their race. He effected his escape from those friendly savages, and after wandering over a wild land for nearly four thousand miles—half naked and half starved, he reached Panama, and by his eloquence and misfortunes influenced the Governor so much, that he furnished him with clothes and money, and gave him guides to Vara Cruz. To the Governor of Vera Cruz he told the story of his sufferings both in Scotland and in South America ; the Spaniard was moved and sent him to Havannah ; but privately informed the commander of that place that a man of Muir's principles would be dangerous in New Spain, and advised that he should be sent to Old Spain, in order that the king might determine upon his fate. He was detained in prison—some generous Spaniards sent him clothes, more particularly linen, which he now regarded as a luxury.

A vast quantity of gold and silver was to be conveyed to Spain, and two frigates were ordered to carry it,—in one of these Muir embarked. During the voyage, he was obliged to work like a common sailor, and was treated rudely by the officers : they neared Spain, and thought themselves safe. War, however, had been declared between their country and England ; and two British frigates, the *Emerald* and *Irresistible*, interposed between them and Cadiz. The battle, fought within sight of the shore crowded with spectators, was fierce and desperate, and continued for two hours. The slaughter was great among the Spaniards—towards the close of the action Muir was struck with a ball on the face, and when the vessel was boarded by [illegible] the *Irresistible* wrote home to his relations—"Among the sufferers on the Spanish side is Mr. Thomas Muir, who made so wonderful an escape from Botany Bay to Havannah. He was one of the five *killed* on board the *Nymph* by the last shot fired by us. The officer at whose side he fell is now at my hand, and says he behaved with courage to the last," Luckily, another Scottish officer was not contented with hearsay—he went on board the Spaniard, and on looking at the dead and dying, was struck at the unusual position in which one of them lay : he was sorely wounded in the face, was covered with blood, and between his clasped hands he held a small Bible. On being moved, he uttered a deep sigh, and the book fell from his hands. The officer took it up, read the name Thomas Muir upon it, and having cleansed the blood from the wounds, recognised his old school-fellow and companion. The officer did not breathe his name, nor appear to know him, but bound up his wounds and caused him to be moved gently on board a small skiff and carried ashore, where, under the care of a skilful surgeon, he recovered, but so slowly that he could not utter a word for two months. Meanwhile the French Directory, hearing that Muir was in Spain, desired their ambassador to defray whatever debts he had incurred, fit him out as became a gentleman, and, moreover, say that the French wished to confer upon him the honour of a free citizenship, and enable him, as a son of freedom and a sufferer, to spend the remainder of his days in France These generous offers came to a dying man : he reached France indeed, but his wounds were uncured, and, perhaps, incurable. He lingered till September 1798, when, sealing up his pocket-bible and addressing it to his mother, he expired, and was buried with much respect by the public authorities. Such is the story of Thomas Muir, and a tragic one it is.

His relatives are of the highest respectability ; two of his nephews are at present in London, one of them a captain in the naval service of the East India Company. They have no reason to be otherwise than pleased with being the sister's son of such a man. His fault was this, he lived too soon ; had he lived now, he would have found times to his mind, and friends in thousands and tens of thousands, advocating as he did, but not with more eloquence, an equal representation of the people, The concluding words of his defence are not unprophetic.

"Gentlemen of the Jury, this is perhaps the last time that I shall address my country. What, then, has been my crime ? Not the lending to a relation a copy of Mr. Paine's works—not the giving away to another a few numbers of an innocent and constitutional publication ; but my crime is *for happening to be, according to measure of my feeble abilities, a strenuous and active advocate for an equal representation of the people in the House of the People*—for having dared to accomplish a measure, by legal means, which was to diminish the weight of their taxes, and to put an end to the profusion of their blood. Gentlemen, from my infancy to this moment, I have devoted myself to the cause of the people. It is a good cause—it shall ultimately prevail—it shall finally triumph. Say, then, openly, in your verdict, if you do condemn me, which, I presume, you will not, that it is for my attachment to this cause alone, and not for those vain and wretched pretexts stated in the indictment, intended only to colour and disguise the real motives of my accusation."

Curran, in his defence of Hamilton Rowan, extended his Sympathy to Muir, in a passage which Scotchmen must ever be proud to quote.

There is a sort of aspiring and adventurous credulity, which disdains assenting to obvious truth, and delights in catching at the improbability of circumstances, as its best ground of faith. To what other cause, gentlemen, can you ascribe, that in the wise, the reflecting, and the philosophic nation of Great Britain, a printer had been gravely found guilty of a libel, for publishing those resolutions to which the present Minister of that kingdom had actually subscribed his name? To what other cause can you ascribe, what in my mind is still more astonishing, in such a country as Scotland—a nation cast in the happy medium between the spiritless acquiescence of submissive poverty, and the sturdy credulity of pampered wealth ; cool and ardent ; adventurous and persevering ; winging her eagle flight against the blaze of every science, with an eye that never winks, and a wing that never tires ; crowned as she is with the spoils of every art, and decked with the wreath of every muse, from the deep and scrutinizing researches of Hume, to the sweet and simple, but not less pathetic and sublime morality of her Burns---how, from the bosom of a country like that, genius, and character, and talents, should be banished to a distant barbarous sail ; condemned to pine under the horrid communion of vulgar vice and bareborn profligacy, for twice the period that ordinary calculation gives to the continuance of human life.—*Liverpool Journal, April*, 30.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW. No. 105.

The number of the Edinburgh Review, just published, contains several articles of great interest. The best, so far as we are able to judge, from a rather cursory survey, are those on Dr. Lingard's History of England, on Beechey's Voyage to Behring's Straits, and on Parliamentary Reform. The following extract from the article on Beechey's Voyage will amuse those who have read Captain Basil Hall's flaming account of Loo Choo. The gallant Captain, though a beautiful writer, appears to have been most outrageously gulled both in the Eastern and Western World :—

"Captain Beechey's account of Loochoo and its inhabitants we are inclined to consider as, in some respects the most important, if not the most interesting part of [illegible] we are somewhat at a loss to discover the precise nature of his own particular views respecting the character of the people by whom this island is inhabited, there can be no doubt that he has said enough to expose the misconceptions of Captain Hall and Dr. Macleod on the subject. We have been hitherto reading romances on Loochoo, the scene of which merely is laid in that island. The commander of the Blossom has broken the spell and dissolved the charm by a plain matter of-fact statement, which has certainly nothing but its truth to recommend it. Let us see what he makes of this little fairyland of the Yellow Sea.

"The great puzzle in the character of these people, is conceived to be the readiness with which they supply to ships whatever may be required, without asking or receiving any equivalent in return. The riddle, however, is not of every difficult solution ; for in the first place, from the facts stated by Captain Beechey, it is manifest that their liberality is more apparent than real. He found them ready enough not only to receive presents, but to beg for them, when they could do so without being observed ; and he further discovered that they could steal, when occasion offered, with very tolerable dexterity. A registering thermometer having been abstracted from the deck, Captain Beechey mentioned the circumstance to Captain Hall's friend the linguist. The latter effected much distress on hearing of the theft, and said he would make every inquiry about the missing article on shore : adding, however, with great *naïveté*, 'Plenty Loo Choo man teef, plenty mans teef,' and advising the Captain to look well after his handkerchiefs, watches, and particularly any of the instruments that might be taken on shore. Every circumstance, indeed, leads to the conclusion, that the ostensible liberality of these people is the result of policy, rather than native generosity of disposition. Cunning and craftiness are the arms which the weak employ against the strong. Conscious alike of their exposed position, and of their inability, in the event of actual aggression, to repel force by force, the Loochooans naturally avail themselves of the only effectual means of defence they possess, and seek to coax and bribe off visitors with whom it might be dangerous to quarrel, and fatal to come to blows. They are by no means of a bold and warlike disposition, but rather the reverse ; and their intercourse with Europeans must have convinced them that policy afforded the surest, as well as the most congenial means of protection. Accordingly, they are consummate adepts in all the arts of dissimulation ; smooth, hypocritical, false, and at the same time jealous and watchful in a high degree ; always attempting to accomplish their object, and commonly succeeding, by means of cunning, cozenage and deceit, lackered over with an outer coating of fair-seeming, urbanity, and plausibility, which seldom fail to impose on those with whom they have to deal. Thus, in their very weakness they have found, if we may so express it an element of strength. But to represent such a people as paragons of every human virtue, and as strangers to all the evils, and vices, and crimes, which afflict society in other parts of the earth is to take them rather too literally at their word, and to exhibit the external varnish, without giving us a glimpse of the coarse or corrupt material within, which it serves to smooth and gloss over to the eye of a distant observer. Captain Beechey has rendered an essential service to the cause of truth, by details exposing several of the more prominent mistakes which have been committed in regard to the Loochooans.

"First, it was said that this people were possessed of no arms, either offensive or defensive ; an assertion which excited considerable surprise at the time when it was originally made, and which Napoleon, on its being repeated to him, instantly declared his unqualified disbelief of. Captain Beechey, however, saw no arms in the possession of the natives. But the manderins and others stated that there were both cannons and muskets in the island ; an yah affirmed that twenty-six cannon were distributed among the junks belonging to Loochoo ; the fishermen, and indeed all classes at Napa, showed themselves familiar with the use of cannon, when they came on board the Blossom, and particularly noticed the improvement of the flintlock upon the matchlock ; on the panels of the joshouse, or temple, are painted figures seated upon broadswords, and bows and arrows ; and, what is still more conclusive than all, the harbour of Napa is defended by three square stone forts, one on each side of the entrance, and the other on a small island, so situated as to rake a vessel entering the port,—and these forts, besides being loopholed, are provided with platforms and parapets. Further, Captain Beechey presented a mandarin with a pair of pistols, which he thankfully accepted ; and the arms were taken charge of by his attendants, without exciting any unusual degree of curiosity. Upon questioning Captain Hall's friend the linguist as to where the Loochooans procured gunpowder, Captain Beechey immediately received for answer, 'From Fochien, Besides, both China and Japan have repeatedly fitted out expeditions against Loochoo, and civil wars have occasionally prevailed in the island ; occurrences, we presume, which will scarcely be considered compatible with an ignorance of war and of the use of arms.

"Secondly, we were also told that the Loochooans had no money, and were wholly unacquainted with the use of it, This, as the newspapers say would have been important, if true. But unfortunately for the the accuracy of those who promulgated this statement, Captain Beechey not only saw money in circulation on the island, but has some of it now [illegible] China. From the author it appears that money has long been known to, if not in use among, the Loochooans ; probably since the middle of the fifteenth century.

"Thirdly, so effectually had these smooth hypocrites imposed on the good nature of Captain Hall, that we were led, on his authority, to believe that the heaviest penalty attached to the commission of a crime in Lochoo was a gentle tap with a fan. We were also informed that the conduct of the superior orders in Loochoo towards their inferiors, was characterised by a mildness and forbearance worthy of the primitive ages. Captain Beechey's surprise may therefore be conceived, when the first mandarin who came on board the Blossom proceeded, on some slight provocation, to bamboo the *canaille* that had accompanied him, with an energy and vigour which astonished both the commander and the crew, and proved that the buttoned functionary was no mean proficient in the use of the Chinese instrument of government. The cowardly, however, are always cruel. Upon further inquiry [illegible] out that the punishments in [illegible] are nearly the same as those p[illegible] which has always been famous [illegible]

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nary character of its penal code. For great crimes, the punishment awarded is death, by strangulation on a cross, and sometimes under protracted torments: while, for less aggravated offences, the body is loaded with iron chains, —or the neck is locked into a heavy wooden frame,— or the person is inclosed in a case, leaving out the head of the culprit, which is shaven, and exposed to the scorching rays of the sun,—or, finally, the hands and feet are bound, and quicklime thrown into the eyes. It appears, also, that confession is sometimes extorted by dividing the joints of the fingers alternately, and clipping the muscles of the legs and arms with scissors; and several individuals at Rotsoong assured Captain Beechey that they had seen an unfortunate wretch expire under this horrid species of torture. One is almost tempted to believe that the devil or an inquisitor had invented these atrocities, there being scarcely any other supposition on which we can account for a refinement in cruelty such as that which is at length found to prevail among the people of Loochoo, and which, unquestionably, would reflect no discredit either on the place of punishment below, or on the best imitation of it that has ever been got up above. Such are the gentle doves who cooed so softly in the ear of Captain Hall, persuading him that the golden age was, after all, no poetical chimera, and filling his imagination with some of the most absurd fantasies ever palmed on good-natured credulity."—*Liv. Times, April* 24.

THE SPECTATORS LIBRARY.

CAPTAIN BASIL HALL, under the title of *Fragments of Voyages and Travels*, has published a kind of autobiographical miscellany, the perusal of which has afforded us several days of great enjoyment. It might have been called recollections of the more striking passages of a life at sea. It consists of a sort of retrospective view of his career, of his experience, of his adventures, with a pretty constant moral commentary upon the best motives and guides of action. The author intends his book for the perusal of youth; but we doubt much whether *youth* will take the lively interest in it that we are very sure *age* will.

Captain HALL is a very pleasing and elegant writer, of an extremely amiable temperament, of great activity of mind, and a very accomplished scientific sailor. His experience has taken him into every quarter of the globe, with a spirit to enjoy all that was agreeable, and a taste for picking up all the knowledge presented by novelty, and a memory for storing the proceeds of his inquiries. With these accomplishments, it may be readily supposed that he is highly qualified to read a lecture to the young and old on the dangers and the pleasures, the advantages and the difficulties, of a nautical life. This is what he has done, and admirably done it is. But Captain Hall is not a man to stop here. The same restless mind which leads him to inquire into the secrets of nature and art, also takes him into the regions of government and politics, where he is calculated to shine with an extraordinarily vicious light. The Captain is an ingenious optimist, distinguished, like all optimists, by his quality of reaping enjoyment from things as they are, and corresponding apprehension of a change which might disturb his satisfaction. While, however, this disposition endows him with high opinions of all that is established, his natural shrewdness and acquired information teach him the value of new discoveries; so that in the same breath we detect him in the act of demonstrating the beauty of the past and admiring the power of that which is to overthrow it. This position gives him an air of enternal temporizing when on these matters: he is always qualifying and glozing, shifting his ground, [illegible] and attudinizing with his subject; till his reader, who has gone to the bottom of it at once by the application of some plain principle, loses all patience with the book, and feels strongly inclined to speak of its author with a disrespect which ought never to have been coupled with the name of so amiable and accomplished a writer. But let these knots be slipped over, and let us think only of the generous upright sailor, the goodnatured and openhearted traveller, the ready expounder of science, the kind and benevolent gentleman; for such he is, and such he appears at almost every page of this pleasant little work, which we hope will be continued to thrice times three, [illegible] of the [illegible] of [illegible] leaves the writer still a very young [illegible] old sailor.

By way of example of the *incident* afforded by these volumes, we shall quote one specimen; it is the destruction of a ship in a Nova Scotia fog. The more instructive part of the work, it is not so easy to exemplify as to describe.

"On the 9th of May, we reached Halifax, off which port we were detained in a very disagreeable way; for we had the misfortune to be kept three whole days off the harbour, in one of those Nova Scotia fogs which are celebrated all over the world. I can hardly give by description an idea of how gloomy they are; but I think their effects can be compared to those of the sirocco; with the further annoyance that, while they last, we are not able to see far beyond our noses. They are even worse than rain, for they seem to wet one through sooner; while they make every thing appear dreary, and certainly render all the world lazy and discontented.

"On the day we made the land, we had [illegible] of being able to enter the harbour, [illegible] fair: when, all at once, we [illegible] by so thick a mist, that, for the three succeeding days, we could not see above twenty yards on any side.

"There are few things, indeed, more provoking than these fogs off Halifax; for, as they happen to be companions of that very wind, the south-east, which is the best for running in, the navigator is plagued with the tormenting consciousness, that if he could be allowed but a couple of hours' clear weather, his port would be gained, and his troubles over. The clearing up, therefore, of these odious clouds or veils is about the most delightful thing I know; and the instantaneous effect which a clear sight of the land, or even of the sharp horizon, when far at sea, has on the mind of every person on board, is quite remarkable. All things look bright, fresh, and more beautiful than ever. The stir over the whole ship at these moments is so great, that even persons sitting below can tell at once that the fog has cleared away. The rapid clatter of the men's feet, springing up the hatchways at the lively sound of the boatswain's call to 'make sail!' soon follows. Then comes the cheerful voice of the officer, hailing the topmen to shake out the reefs, trice up the staysails, and ring out the booms. that peculiar and well-known kind of echo, also, by which the sound of the voice is thrown back from the wet sails, contributes, in like manner, to produce a joyou elasticity of spirits, greater, I think, than is excited by most of the ordinary occurrences of a sea life.

"A year or two after the time I am speaking of, it was resolved to place a heavy gun upon the rock on which Sambro light-house is built; and, after a good deal of trouble, a long twenty-four pounder was hoisted up to the highest ridge of this prominent station. It was then arranged that if, on the arrival of any ship off the harbour, in a period of fog, she chose to fire guns, these were to be answered from the light-house; and in this way a kind of audible, though invisible telegraph might be set to work. If it happened that the owners of the ship were sufficiently familiar with the ground, and possessed nerves stout enough for such a groping kind of navigation, perilous at best, it was possible to run fairly into the harbour, notwithstanding the obscurity, by watching the sound of these guns, and attending closely to the depth of water.

"I never was in any ship which ventured upon this feat; but I perfectly recollect a curious circumstance, which occurred, I think, to his Majesty's ship Cambrian. She had run in from sea towards the coast, enveloped in one of these dense fogs. Of course they took for granted that the light-house and the adjacent land, Halifax included, were likewise covered with an impenetrable cloud or mist. But it so chanced, by what freak of Dame Nature I know not, that the fog, on that day, was confined to the deep water; so that we, who were in the port, could see it, at the distance of several miles from the coast, lying, on the ocean, like a huge stratum of snow, with an abrupt face, fronting the shore. The Cambrian, lost in the midst of this fog bank, supposing herself to be near the land, fired a gun. To this the light-house replied; and so the ship and the light went on, pelting away, gun for gun, during half the day, without ever seeing one another. The people at the light-house had no means of communicating to the frigate, that, if she would only stand on a little further, she would disentangle herself from the cloud, in which, like Jupiter Olympus of old, she was wasting her thunder.

"At last the captain, hopeless of its clearing up, gave orders to pipe to dinner; but as the weather, in all respects except this abominable haze, was quite fine, and the ship was still in deep water, he directed her to be steered towards the shore, and the lead kept constantly going. As one o'clock approached, he began to feel uneasy, from the water shoaling, and the light-house guns sounding closer and closer; but, being unwilling to disturb the men at their dinner, he resolved to stand on for the remaining ten minutes of the hour. Lo and behold! however they had not sailed half a mile further before the flying-jib-boom end emerged from the wall of mist—then the bowsprit shot into daylight—and, lastly, the ship herself glided out of the cloud into the full blaze of a bright and 'sunshine holiday.' All hands were instantly turned up to make sail; and the men, as they flew on deck, could scarcely believe their eyes when they came [illegible] harbour's mouth, with the bold cliffs of Cape Sambro on the left, and farther still, the ships at their moorings, with their ensigns and pendants blowing out, light and dry in the breeze.

"A far different fate, alas! attended his Majesty's ship Atalante, Captain Frederick Hickey. On the morning of the 10 h of November, 1813, this ship stood in for Halifax harbour in very thick weather, carefully feeling her way with the lead, and having look-out men at the jib-boom end, fore-yard-arms, and everywhere else from which a glimpse of the land was likely to be obtained. After breakfast, a fog signal-gun was fired, in the expectation of its being answered by the light-house on Cape Sambro, near which it was known they must be. Within a few minutes, accordingly, a gun was heard in the N. N. W. quarter, exactly where the light was supposed to lie. As the soundings agreed with the estimated position of the ship, and as the guns from the Atalante, fired at intervals of fifteen minutes, were regularly answered in the direction of the harbour's mouth, it was determined to stand on, so as to enter the port under the guidance of these sounds alone. By a fatal coincidence of circumstances, however, these answering guns were fired, not by Cape Sambro, but by his Majesty's ship Barossa, which was likewise entangled by the fog. She, too, supposed that she was communicating with the light-house, whereas it was the guns of the unfortunate Atalante that she heard all the time.

"There was, certainly, no inconsiderable risk incurred by running in for the harbour's mouth under such circumstances. But it will often happen that it becomes an officer's duty to put his ship, as well as his life, in hazard; and this appears to have been exactly one of those cases. Captain Hickey was charged with urgent despatches relative to the enemy's fleet, which it was of the greatest importance should be delivered without an hour's delay. But there was every appearance of this fog lasting a week; and as he and his officers had passed over the ground a hundred times before, and were as intimately acquainted with the spot as any pilot could be, it was resolved to try the bold experiment; and the ship was forthwith steered in the supposed direction of Halifax.

"They had not, however stood on far, before one of the look out men exclaimed, 'Breakers a head! Hard-starboard!' But it was too late, for, before the helm could be put over, the ship was amongst those formidable reefs known by the name of the Sister's Rocks, or eastern ledge of Sambro Island. The rudder and half of the sternpost, together with great part of the false keel, were driven off at the first blow, and floated up alongside. There is some reason, to believe, indeed that a portion of the bottom of the ship, loaded with one hundred and twenty tons of iron ballast, was torn from the upper works by this fearful blow, and that the ship, which instantly filled with water, was afterwards buoyed up merely by the empty casks, till the decks and sides were burst through, or riven assunder by the waves.

"The captain, who, throughout the whole scene, continued as composed as if nothing remarkable had occurred, now ordered the guns to be thrown overboard; but before one of them could be cast loose, or a breeching cut, the ship fell over so much that the men could not stand. It was, therefore, with great difficulty that a few guns were fired as signals of distress. In the same breath that this order was given, Captain Hickey desired the yard tackles to be hooked, in order that the pinance might be hoisted out; but as the masts, deprived of their foundation, were tottering from side to side, the people were called down again. The quarter boats were then lowered into the water with some difficulty; but the jolly-boat, which happened to be on the poop undergoing repairs, in being launched overboard, struck against one of the stern davits, bilged, and went down. The ship was now sailing fast over on her beam ends, and directions were given to cut away the fore and main mast. Fortunately, they fell without injuring the large boat on the booms—their grand hope. At the instant of this crash, the ship parted in two, between the main and mizen masts; and within a few seconds afterwards, she again broke right across, between the fore and main masts; so that the poor At a lante now formed a mere wreck, divided into three pieces, crumbling into smaller fragments at every send of the swell.

"By this time, a considerable crowd of the men had got into the pinace on the booms, in hopes that she might floot off as the ship sunk: but Captain Hickey, seeing that the boat, so loaded, could never swim, desired some twenty of the men to quit her; and, what is particularly worthy of remark, his orders, which were given with the most perfect coolness, were as promptly obeyed as ever. Throughout the whole of these trying moments, indeed, the discipline of the ship appears to have been maintained, not only without the smallest traces of insubordination, but with a degree of cheerfulness which is described as truly wonderful. Even when the masts fell, the sound of the crashing spars was drowned in the animating huzzas of the undaunted crew, though they were then clinging to the weather gunwale, with the sea, from time to time, making a clean breach over them, and when they were expecting every instant to be carried to the bottom!

"As soon as the pinnace was relieved from the pressure of the crowd, she floated off the booms, or, rather, was knocked off by a sea, which turned her bottom upwards, and whelmed her into the surf, amidst the fragments of the wreck. The people, however, imitating the gallant bearing of their captain, and keeping their eyes fixed upon him, never, for one instant [illegible] exertions, they succeeded not only in righting the boat, but in disentangling her from the confused heap of spars, and the dash of the breakers, so as to place her at a little distance from the wreck, where they waited for futher orders from the captain, who, with about forty men still clung to the poor remains of the great Atalante—once so much admired!

"An attempt was next made to construct a raft, as it was feared the three boats could not possibly carry all hands; but the violence of the waves prevented this, and it was resolved to trust to the boats alone, though they were already, to all appearance, quite full. It was now, however, absolutely necessary to take to them, as the wreck was disappearing rapidly; and in order to pack close, most of the men were removed to the pinace, where they were laid flat in the bottom, like herrings in a barrel, while the small boats returned to pick off the rest. This was no easy matter in any case, while in others it was impossible; so that many men had to swim for it; others were dragged through the waves by robes, and some were forked off by oars and other small spars.

"Amongst the crew there was one famous merry fellow, a black fiddler, who was discovered, at this critical juncture, clinging to the main chains, with his beloved Cremona squeezed tightly but delicately under his arm—a ludicrous picture of distress, and a subject of some joking amongst the men, even at this moment. It soon became absolutely necessary that he should lose one of two things—his fiddle or his life. So at last, after a painful struggle, the professor and his violen were obliged to part company!

"The poor negro musician's tenacity of purpose arose from sheer love of his art. There was another laugh raised, however at the same time, at the expence of the captain's clerk, who stimulated purely by a sense of duty, lost all recollection of himself, in his anxiety to save what was instrusted to his care, and thus was very nearly being drowned. This zealous person had general instructions, that whenever guns were fired, or any other circumstance occured likely to shake the chronometer, he was to hold it in his hand, to prevent the concussion deranging its works. As soon, therefore, as the ship was dashed against the rocks the clerk's thoughts naturally turned exclusively on the time piece. He caught the watch up, and ran on deck; but as he was no swimmer, he was obliged to cling to the mizen mast, where he stuck fast, careless of every thing but his important charge. When the ship fell over, and the mast became nearly horizontal, he managed to creep along till he reached the mizen-top, where he seated himself in some trepidation—grinning like a monkey that has run off with a cocoa nut—till the spar gave way and he was plunged, chronometer and all, right overboard. Every eye was turned to the spot, to see whether this most public-spirited of scribes was ever to appear again; when to the great joy of all hands, he emerged from the waves—watch still in hand! and was with great difficulty dragged into one of the boats, half drowned.

"With the exception of this fortunate chronometer, and the Admiral's despatches, which the Captain had secured when the Ship first struck, every thing on board was lost.

"The pinnace now contained seventy-nine men and women, the cutter forty-two, and the gig eighteen, with which cargoes they barely floated. Captain Hickey was, of course, the last man who left the wreck; though such were the respect and affection felt for him by his crew that those who stood along with him on this last vestige of the ship, evinced the greatest reluctance at leaving the commander in such a perilous predicament. So speedy, indeed was the work of destruction, that by the time the captain was fairly in the boat the wreck had almost entirely 'melted into the yest of waves.' The crew, however, gave her three hearty cheers as she went down, and then finally abandoned the scattered fragments of what had been their house and home for nearly seven years.

"The fog still continued as thick as ever; the binacles had both been washed overboard, and no compass could be procured. As the wind was still light, there was great difficulty in steering in a straight line. Had there been a breeze, it would perhaps have been easier to have shaped a course. In this dilemma a resource was hit upon, which, for a time, answered pretty well to guide them. It being known, loosely, before leaving the wreck, in what direction the land was situated, the three boats were placed in a row pointing that way. The sternmost boat then quitted her station in the rear; and pulled a head till she came in a line with the other two boats, but took care not to go so far as to be lost in the fog; the boat which was now astern then rowed a head, as the first had done; and so on, doubling along, one after the other. This tardy method of proceeding, however, answered for a time; and at length they were completely at a loss which way to steer. Precisely at this momen of greatest need, an old quarter-master, Samuel Shanks by name, recollected at the end of his watch chain there hung a small compass seal. This precious discovery was announced to the other boats by a joyous shout from the pinnace.

"The compass being speedily handed into the gig, to the captain, was placed on the top of the chronometer, so nobly saved by the clerk! and as this instrument worked on jimbles, the little needle remained upon it sufficiently steady for steering the boats within a few points.

"This was enough to ensure hitting the land, from which they had been steering quite wide, Before reaching the shore, they fell in with an old fisherman, who piloted them to a bight called Portuguese Cove, where they all landed [illegible] town of Halifax."

Of this agreeable work we may add, that it ought to be considered as a companion to all books of voyages and travels; for the explanations of nautical proceedings are so full and clear, that "shoregoing people" will find a great number of difficulties which formerly obscured the most interesting scenes and proceedings in the description of voyages abundantly cleared up. We trust confidently to Captain HALL for a continuation; for he tells us, that he wants only the approbation of the public,—which we take the liberty to promise him.—*Spec. April.* 24,

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Some members of the House of Peers seem to have strange ideas of decorum and dignity. We are told that the marriage of the Earl of Harrington to Miss Foote, is to be followed by the marriage of Lord Harborough to the divorced wife of Mr. Grandby Calcraft, better known as Miss Love, the Actress!

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